U.S. Department of Justice Immigration and Naturalization Service **U.S. Border Patrol - Tucson Sector** 1970 West Ajo Way Tucson, Arizona 85713



NEWS RELEASE

December 6, 2002

Border Patrol and Tohono O'odham Nation Participate in Citizen's Academy

TUCSON, Ariz. -- The U.S. Border Patrol and all eleven of the Tohono O'odham Nation Districts participated in a one-day Informational Resource Forum or Citizen's Academy. The purpose of the academy was to provide a forum to members of the Tohono O'odham Nation so they have a more in-depth understanding of the role and mission of the Border Patrol as it relates to operations on Nation's lands.

The members received briefings on a variety of topics such as history of the Border Patrol, the national strategy of controlling illegal immigration and the Tucson Sector's role in that strategy, technology used by the Border Patrol, and ways to contact the nearest Border Patrol station for reporting activity and concerns. The members also received a border tour of the Nogales Operational Area to learn first hand how the deterrence based strategy and technology can successfully mitigate illegal immigration. They were given the opportunity to speak with local Nogales leaders and community members as to the incorporation of the Border Patrol strategy into the community for an increased quality of life of everyone in the areas affected by illegal immigration.

